

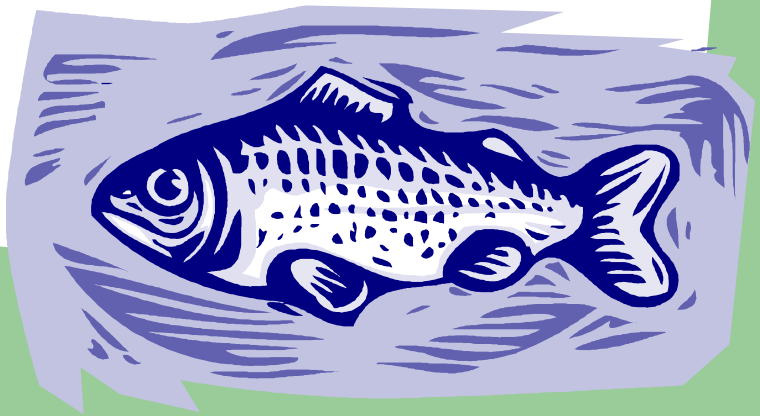
Mosquito Fish

(*Gambusia affinis*)

These handy little fish are an important part of the County of San Diego's Vector Surveillance and Control program. This relative of the guppy feeds on mosquito larvae. They can be safely introduced into standing water, like decorative ponds, birdbaths, untreated pools and animal watering troughs. Mosquito fish even do well in polluted water. Protect them from chemicals and predators and they will protect you by eating hundreds of mosquito larvae daily.

Mosquito fish can survive temperatures above 100 degrees, but may not live long in freezing weather. They are compatible with most ornamental pond fish. Do not release them into public water bodies such as streams, lakes or rivers.

Mosquito fish are one to two inches in length, and females give birth to hundreds of "fry" each year. They live for about a year, and are provided free to the public year round. Mosquito fish are a "biological control," and are part of the County's Integrated Pest Management Strategy.



Thank you for helping us control mosquitoes and the diseases they spread. For more information about how to protect yourself and your community please call

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